

Nord it is no use for you to
write and try to prevent this
It is fixed. One of the clerks
is dismissed and Ed goes
in tomorrow morning.
You will only hurt Aunt's
feelings if you say anything
more than to regret it.

I was going to tell you something
about our 4th. The principal
excitement of the day came
off in the morning. Mrs. Blake
was sitting at the dining room
table arranging flowers, Mr.
Blake was reading a paper near
the sofa. Eliza and Ed were
on the sofa and between them
lay a pile of fire crackers large
and small. Anderson had been
out firing ^{some} ~~them~~ off and
came in with his lighted
punk in his hand for a fresh
supply. No one noticed this
until suddenly an explosion
was heard and Mrs. B. looking

Niles July 6. 1879.

Dear Billie

We have just rec. your
postal written after your return
from N. H. and await your
letter with interest. I am glad
you had the opportunity to be
in N. H. last week, and hope
you enjoyed it as much as
you expected to. Mrs. Blake
had a letter from her mother
in which she spoke of you
and Auntie and gave us to
understand that you were
having a grand time and
enjoying yourself. We have
been having rather a lively
time here & Mr Blake came
down Thursday eve and goes

tomorrow morning x Jue had
written to Auntie telling of
the Oakland party so I will
not repeat x I have just
asked him if he gave the names
of the party and as he did not
I will, Elbattie and Eddie,
Leizzie Gill, Jennie Bacon, Carrie
Fisher (Galen Fisher's daughter)
Annie Buell, Fanny Borson
Guy Earl, a young man
named Bates and a matron
his mother and a friend of
hers. I did not fancy either
of the matrons, but it was
a very nice set of young
people, and they had a good
time. I tell Jue it will be
incumbent upon him the
next time he goes to Oakland
to go with Ed and call on
the young ladies x

But what do you think is
the decision in regard to
Ed? He is to go into the drug
store instead of the Abolitionist.
He says if he had not agreed
to do it his father would
have sold out and been
left without any business.
I think it is quite sudden
and I do not understand it x
Jennie was talking quite
pale when she was up
but she certainly thought
of nothing then but of
having Ed go to the Uo.
I feel very sorry about it x
Ed says he is going to have
it so fixed that he will
have a certain fixed time
to himself and do the year's
work, but it will require
a great deal of resolution x

purchased she made for
me & Papa brought a \$5.00,
grocery bill with the cherry
money and I have paid
20, on that. I reckon that
when Mrs. B. settles up at
the end of this week I shall
have enough to finish
paying for the groceries
and square up South's wages
to the present time & Charlie
has been doing pretty well
I guess. He wrote that subs
were good till the last postal
I had when he said he had
not done much that week
as he had a bail on the back
of his neck and his horse
was a good deal fagged &
He went from the valleys
where the thermometer was
106, in the day up into the
mountains where there
was snow & Papa has been
very busy over a book of

up saw a snake and shouted
to Mr. Blake to take the children
away & That done he caught
up the pile of fire works
as well as he could and
got them out doors. No
one was hurt and very
little harm done, but poor
Eliza and Ned were so
frightened that they mailed
most pitifully in concert,
had two or three cups over
the fire crackers afterwards.
The next day (Saturday) they
all went to ride and the
horse took fright at something
and they were near having
an accident, broke the
carriage and lamed the
horse temporarily. I tell
Mrs. Blake that I think the
Blake family celebrated the
4th pretty extensively, and
she agrees with me & she has
felt rather the worse for

the fright to day and I do not
morder x I am sorry for
she was evidently gaining,
but I dont think it will
be any serious setback.

Mr. Large is back. Has
been down to Soud. Angles x

We have some hope of
securing a position for
Lillie Wall at Centreville
but it is not at all sure x

I sent July Hort x Also
sent Oakland paper to you
at Farmington x There
is not much in the O. paper
that you would care for
more Anniversary matters
are not in x Sue has been
fixing us up x We have
four bronze brackets in
the front hall with
plants on them. We have

the mantle in parlor uphol-
stered x Joe is getting the black and
framed to put up over the
hat rack in the front hall x
I have got a new supply of
towel table cloths and
napkins and paid for
them. Sue gave me a set
of china that she said she
never used. It was one that
Mr. T. bought when he and
his sister first went to
house keeping and Miss T.
did not like it. It is very
pretty and with that and
some glass dishes ~~that~~ ^{that}
Sue gave me, we are quite
set up. You will want to
know how I am getting on
financially. I have had but
\$70, from C. so far and
have paid Sue for the

views in the Colorado
canyon or you would not
have had so long a letter,
but he is beginning to say
that it is bed time, and I
cant write much longer &
I had a letter from Aunt
Annie & Poor thing she is
lonesome enough & I hope
you will be able to see her
again before you return.
It is a pity you did not see more
of Belle Blank.

~~When~~ Mrs. Blake says give
her love to you and Auntie
and tell you she enjoys your
letters very much &

Tell Auntie I do not write
especially to her for I suppose
you read anything to her
that would interest her
I am sorry to hear that

Mrs. Henderson is in poor
health & You must do all
your care to help so as not
to be a burden to her.

Papa must be put off
any longer, so Good Night
Yours lovingly
Mama.